

**NTP Technical Report  
on Toxicity Studies of**

**Isoprene**

(CAS No. 78-79-5)

**Administered by Inhalation  
to F344/N Rats and B6C3F<sub>1</sub> Mice**

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Post Office Box 12233  
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**NIH Publication 94-3354  
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**United States Department of Health and Human Services  
Public Health Service  
National Institutes of Health**

## **Note to the Reader**

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) is made up of four charter agencies of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS):

- the National Cancer Institute (NCI) of the National Institutes of Health;
- the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) of the National Institutes of Health;
- the National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR) of the Food and Drug Administration; and
- the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of the Centers for Disease Control.

In July 1981, the Carcinogenesis Bioassay Testing Program was transferred from NCI to NIEHS. NTP coordinates the relevant Public Health Service programs, staff, and resources that are concerned with basic and applied research and with biological assay development and validation.

NTP develops, evaluates, and disseminates scientific information about potentially toxic and hazardous chemicals. This knowledge is used for protecting the health of the American people and for the primary prevention of disease.

NTP designs and conducts studies to characterize and evaluate the toxicologic potential of selected chemicals in laboratory animals (usually two species, rats and mice). Chemicals selected for NTP toxicology studies are chosen primarily on the bases of human exposure, level of production, and chemical structure. Selection per se is not an indicator of a chemical's toxic potential.

The studies described in this toxicity study report were performed under the direction of NIEHS and were conducted in compliance with NTP laboratory health and safety requirements. These studies met or exceeded all applicable federal, state, and local health and safety regulations. Animal care and use were in accord and compliance with the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Animals.

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This NTP report on the toxicity studies of isoprene is based primarily on 2-week studies conducted in 1986 and on 13-week and stop-exposure studies that took place in 1988 and 1989 at Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratories, Richland, WA.

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